

# Adelante



AAUW Poway Penasquitos Branch

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## President's Message by Cathy Burciaga

I hope this finds you well and happy and managing to make the best of this difficult time.

In this special Summertime issue of Adelante, you'll read the latest branch news from several contributors – mostly your board members and committee chairpersons who've continued to meet and work these past months on your behalf to “keep the lights on” – focusing on what we CAN do as a group rather than our limitations due to COVID.

Most of the Poway-Peñasquitos board will be serving the second year of their two-year terms this year. We are upbeat and optimistic and looking forward to gathering with all of you again as soon as it's safe to do so.

Meanwhile, thank goodness for virtual meeting software like Zoom and good old-fashioned email. That, and some creative thinking has allowed some of our special interest groups to keep in touch – the book discussion groups and travel group in particular.

Other special interest groups that require a physical presence are more or less on hold for the time being – the January Retreat, Happy Hikers, the Friendship Gatherings, Bridge Club and Garden Gals.

We're optimistic, though, about going forward with our largest social gathering of the year – the Cover to Cover Author's Luncheon – as

scheduled next year on Saturday, May 8, at Maderas Country Club. And as you'll see in this issue, we're planning more great branch events you'll want to attend, coming up within the next few months.

If you haven't already taken advantage of these other options, you should know there are numerous workshops, webinars and videos on a whole array of topics available to you on both the state and national AAUW websites and the Women's Museum of California ([womensmuseumca.org](http://womensmuseumca.org)). For example, register on the Women's Museum website to hear author Alyscia Cunningham talk about her new book “I Am More Than My Hair and Feminine Transitions” on July 21, or on [AAUW-CA.org](http://AAUW-CA.org) for a new webinar on “Cultural Diversity, Education and Dignity—Women Globally” on July 25, or take an online WorkSmart training course on [AAUW.org](http://AAUW.org) anytime. And of course, as we celebrate the 100th Anniversary of women's voting rights this year, you can enjoy PBS's brilliant 4-hour two-part documentary “American Experience: The Vote” on [pbs.org](http://pbs.org) or PBS All Access.

And finally, I wanted to mention that it's still expensive to attend college even with online learning, so we must continue our mission to fundraise in support of our local college women and Tech Trekkers with the “Fall Campaign” coming soon.

Until next time...be well, reach out and call a friend, and stay engaged with us.

-Cathy

## Nominations for AAUW-PP Officers 2020-2021 by Joan Thompson

President: Cathy Burciaga

Programs: 1<sup>st</sup> Vice Presidents

Janice Heather

Sheila Walker

Membership: 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President

Pam Ames

Secretary: Karen McGurk

Treasurer: Michelle Blasberg

Please let Joan Thomson ([kb6cut@cox.net](mailto:kb6cut@cox.net)) know if you have any additions for the nominees by July 31, 2020. Elections will take place via email in August 2020.

## Membership – Matters! Renewal by Pam Ames, Membership Chair

Have YOU renewed? June 30 was the expiration date of memberships. We still have quite a few people that have not paid their \$96 dues for 2020-2021.

If you would like to pay by check please make it payable to AAUW/PP and mail it to Michelle Blasberg, 12509 Montero Ct, San Diego, CA 92128. Your dues can also be paid by credit card, and the link for this was emailed recently to each member. If you have questions, please contact Pam Ames ([pamames123@gmail.com](mailto:pamames123@gmail.com)) or Michelle Blasberg ([michblas09@gmail.com](mailto:michblas09@gmail.com)).

Our annual Membership Directory will be published this summer. We are looking for advertising to publish in it which will help with production costs. Please contact Pam Ames if you would like to purchase an ad.

## Treasurer Update by Michelle Blasberg, Treasurer

Welcome to FY2021! The new fiscal year has begun and in alignment with our By-Laws, we are submitting the FY21 budget, below, to the membership for review and approval. We are submitting a very conservative budget for FY21 due to the unknowns we are faced with for the coming year.

| Operating Budget      |                        | 2020 - 2021        |
|-----------------------|------------------------|--------------------|
|                       |                        | BUDGET             |
| Income                | Renewals (128)         | \$ 2,176.00        |
|                       | Directory advertising  | \$ 350.00          |
| <b>TOTAL INCOME</b>   |                        | <b>\$2,526.00</b>  |
| Expenses              | Communications         | 20.00              |
|                       | Directory Expenses     | 425.00             |
|                       | IBC                    | 100.00             |
|                       | Insurance & Fees       | 600.00             |
|                       | Office Expenses        | 100.00             |
|                       | Conferences & Travel   | 0.00               |
|                       | Membership             | 200.00             |
|                       | Collegiate Partnership | 0.00               |
|                       | Public Policy          | 50.00              |
|                       | Program & Hospitality  | 1000.00            |
| <b>Total Expenses</b> |                        | <b>\$ 2,495.00</b> |

Do you have a business you'd like to advertise in the Membership Directory? If so, you can submit a business card for inclusion in the directory for \$50.00. If you are interested, please reach out to Pam Ames or Michele Michaels.

If you have concerns with this budget, please reach out to Cathy Burciaga ([cburciaga@san.rr.com](mailto:cburciaga@san.rr.com)) or myself, Michelle Blasberg ([michblas09@gmail.com](mailto:michblas09@gmail.com)).

We will be having a virtual September meeting to install the new slate of FY21 officers and to approve this budget. Please be on the lookout for the meeting date and join virtually – it will be great to see our membership.

### **Scholarship Committee 2020 Update** by Joan Natoli, Scholarship Committee Member

The AAUW-PP Scholarship Committee 2020, Jeanni Harrison and Joan Natoli, are proud to announce that we have ten semi-finalists for our annual awards. These wonderful young women come from many backgrounds and situations, but all are re-entry students, some with a child or children, others with language or employment challenges. All are very determined, bright students. The applicants' essays, recommendations, and transcripts have been evaluated. Next comes the interviews, probably over a Zoom type format.

We are very grateful to our branch and board that we will be awarding three \$2000 scholarships. In addition, the board voted an extra \$2000 to be awarded between 2-3 candidates as the committee sees fit. With so many well qualified candidates, it will certainly be a tough choice!

### **Join us On-Line to Honor Scholarship Winners & Prep for November Election** by

Janice Heather

Get out your calendars because our AAUW branch is ready to start fall with some programs you won't want to miss! Given the concerns about Coronavirus and meeting in enclosed spaces, we're offering our first fall programs online using Zoom. Hopefully, most everyone has become familiar with Zoom this year and has used it to stay connected during this challenging time.

On Saturday, September 12 at 10 a.m., we're going to gather (virtually, via Zoom), as we do each year, to recognize our 2020 scholarship winners, honor branch members who've made outstanding contributions to AAUW, swear in our 2020-2021 officers and approve the coming year's budget, which is in this newsletter for your review. As a special treat, we'll show a video of our 2020 Speech Trek winner Jay Wang who spoke on the topic: "Are men and women truly equal today, or are the Suffragettes of 1920 still suffering in 2020?" It's a great opportunity to see the good work we're doing in our community. And, it's a fun opportunity to see AAUW friends you haven't seen in a while, so please plan to join us!

Then, on Saturday, October 10, we're holding our annual League of Woman Voters (LWV) pre-election proposition briefing, also on Zoom. The upcoming November 3 election will be important and not just for the candidates we elect - from President of the United States to local races for Mayor and County Board of Supervisors. There will also be 12 statewide propositions as well as local measures, that address everything from rent control to lifting Proposition 13 tax limitations on commercial property. Jeanne Weidner, the San Diego LWV Speakers Bureau Chair (who is also a member of our AAUW branch), will explain what each measure will do and who supports or opposes it. We will have opportunities for questions & Jeanne will provide a link with the information she presented so you can send to friends and neighbors.

Watch your email in August for the message that will contain the Zoom link for the September 10 meeting. You won't want to miss either of these important sessions.

**AMERICAN  
ASSOCIATION OF  
UNIVERSITY WOMEN  
POWAY PENASQUITOS  
BRANCH**

**Diversity Statement**

In principle and practice, AAUW values and seeks a diverse membership. There shall be no barriers to full participation in this organization based on gender, race, creed, age, sexual orientation, national origin, disability, or class

**Mission Statement**

AAUW advances equality for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy, leadership, and research.

**AAUW's Value Promise**

By joining AAUW, you belong to a community that breaks through educational and economic barriers so that all women and girls have a fair chance.

**National AAUW**

[www.aauw.org](http://www.aauw.org)

**California AAUW**

[www.aauw-ca.org](http://www.aauw-ca.org)

**PowayPenasquitos  
AAUW**

[www.powayarea-](http://www.powayarea-)

[ca.aauw.net](http://ca.aauw.net)

[aauwboard@gmail.co](mailto:aauwboard@gmail.com)

[m](mailto:m)

AAUW Poway  
Penasquitos Branch is a  
501(c)3 corporation

**President:** Cathy  
Buriaga

**Membership:** Pam  
Ames

**Programs:** Janice  
Heather & Sheila  
Walker

**Secretary:** Karen  
McGurk

**Treasurer:** Michelle  
Blasberg

**Travel Lunch Group** by Pam Ames

Since the shutdown our group has been sharing travel photos and memories based on a theme. This has been a fun way to keep in touch with our members. If you would like to be added (or deleted) from the email list, please let me know: Pam Ames ([pamames123@gmail.com](mailto:pamames123@gmail.com)).

**3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday Book Group** by Pam Ames

We continue to meet via zoom, and on July 21 we will discuss Ordinary Grace, by William Kent Krueger. In August we will vote by ballot to pick our titles for the next Reading List. On September 15 we discuss The Overstory, by Richard Powers. Questions? Contact Pam Ames ([pamames123@gmail.com](mailto:pamames123@gmail.com)).

**Thursday Evening Book Group** by Ann Morgan

The Thursday Evening Book Group will be meeting via Zoom on Thursday, July 23<sup>rd</sup> at 7:00 p.m. to discuss Tom Hanks' Uncommon Type. In August we will meet via Zoom at a date yet undetermined to decide the books for next year. The book for September is Little Fires Everywhere, by Celeste Ng. A movie version of the book is currently playing on Hulu and can be accessed by signing up for a free month if you don't already subscribe to that channel. Questions? Contact Ann Morgan ([annmorgansd@yahoo.com](mailto:annmorgansd@yahoo.com)).

**TECH TREK cancelled and alternative CAMP available** by Heidi Dalvie

As you probably know, Tech Trek was cancelled this summer due to Covid-19. We had selected seven worthy young women to attend from the three area middle schools. They were excited to be chosen and we were crushed to have to tell them the disappointing news. However, Mary Isaac (the new TT coordinator) collaborated with QualComm, TechTrek SD and the Laguna Beach AAUW branch to offer a STEM virtual alternative "camp."

The alternative camp is called STEMinists Making Change. It was a random lottery for the girls, as there are only 40 spots in the program. Three of our seven girls were chosen: Tanvi Bhide from Black Mountain MS, Nichole Martinez from Meadowbrook MS and Kiara Schray from Mesa Verde MS. The camp will be Aug 3-7 and the campers will be working individually from home and virtually in groups (Zoom and Google) for the week to make robotic hats! The experience will include lots of Facetime, videos, and virtual small breakout rooms. They will receive the materials and software directly from TT. Also, this camp experience will include daily speakers from STEM fields, which is an integral part of the TT exposure and is sure to provide leadership and inspiration to these young minds. Here is a link to some of the hats completed by other girls their age at the last camp.

[https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1\\_u5VGT7SNHgGtpYKYHWp\\_MpXGFh5ohjL?usp=sharing](https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1_u5VGT7SNHgGtpYKYHWp_MpXGFh5ohjL?usp=sharing)

We're so glad that at least some of these girls can participate in this event. There is no clear path for Tech Trek 2021, and we can only hope at this time. Keep your fingers crossed to be able to send girls to this terrific camp again soon.

-Aresa Toukdarian, Ellen Dillon and Heidi Dalvie, your Tech Trek committee